

Talking points for interview with Mark Barabak of the LA Times.

Story on how Republicans are going to function as the opposition party. He will have voices from DC, but also wanted to get your perspective.

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Talking Points:

- Takeaway message: GOP Governors must and will have a much louder voice on the national stage for the Republican Party to rebuild.
- Governors know that with the Democrats in control of all the power corridors in Congress, it will be up to them in the states to show that Republicans can effectively govern.
- They see their function as to offer positive solutions to issues that can be national models.

- o This is the same model that allowed the Republican Revolution to take place thanks to Governors like Tommy Thompson, Tom Ridge, and John Engler.

- o As such, you will the RGA and our Governors focus a lot more on policy this year. We will be highlighting the very best policies at our events held throughout the country and throughout the year.

Gov. Jindal and healthcare

Gov. Huntsman and environment

Govs. Palin and Perry on energy

Gov. Barbour and emergency management

Gov. Sanford on fiscal and economic issues

Gov. Daniels and government reform

- Governors know they must also be vocal about what federal policies work and do not work in their states. As such, Governors hope to have a strengthened relationship with federal leaders.